

**LISTING OF CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A Method of assessing the state of Alzheimer's disease in a subject comprising detecting a polypeptide having a molecular mass of  $4824 \pm 20$  Da, wherein the polypeptide is a fragment of VGF and the molecular mass being is observable by SELDI-TOF-MS using a strong anion exchange array.
2. (Withdrawn) Method of claim 1 in which at least 2, or 3, or 4, or 5, or 10 or all polypeptides of said group of peptides are detected.
3. (Currently amended) A Method of assessing the state of Alzheimer's disease in a subject comprising detecting a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 17.
4. (Currently amended) A Method of assessing the state of Alzheimer's disease in a subject comprising detecting at least 5 contiguous amino acids of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 17.
5. (Currently amended) A Method of investigating the progression of Alzheimer's disease in a subject characterized in that a method of any of claims 1 to 4 is performed with at least two distinct samples drawn from the same subject.
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Currently amended) The Method of claim 1, wherein specific antibodies or antibodies recognizing said polypeptides are used for detection of said polypeptide(s).
8. (Currently amended) The Method of claim 1, wherein detection is in a sample comprising CSF, blood, serum, plasma, urine, seminal plasma, nipple fluid, and/or cell extracts of said patient.

9. (Withdrawn) A kit comprising polypeptides having a molecular mass of 4824±20 Da, of 7691±20 Da, of 11787±20 Da, of 11988±20 Da, of 13416±20 Da, of 4769±20 Da, of 6958±20 Da, of 6991±20 Da, of 13412±20 Da, of 13787±20 Da, of 17276±20 Da, of 40437±20 Da, of 6895±20 Da, of 6928±20 Da, of 7691±20 Da, of 7769±20 Da, of 7934±20 Da, of 5082±20 Da, of 6267±20 Da, of 6518±20 Da, of 7274±20 Da, and/or of 8209±20 Da.

10. (Withdrawn) A kit comprising a fragment of at least 5 amino acids of human cystatin C, a fragment of at least 5 amino acids of human beta-2-microglobulin, a fragment of at least 5 amino acids of human myoglobin (new variant), and a fragment of at least 5 amino acids of neurosecretory protein VGF.

11. (Currently amended) The Mmethod of claim 3, wherein detection of said polypeptide is by SELDI-TOF-MS.

12. (Currently amended) The Mmethod of claim 3, wherein specific antibodies or antibodies recognizing said polypeptides are used for detection of said polypeptides.

13. (Currently amended) The Mmethod of claim 3, wherein detection is in a sample comprising CSF, blood, serum, plasma, urine, seminal plasma, nipple fluid, and/or cell extracts of said patient.

14. (Currently amended) The Mmethod of claim 4, wherein detection of said polypeptide is by SELDI-TOF-MS.

15. (Currently amended) The Mmethod of claim 4, wherein specific antibodies or antibodies recognizing said polypeptides are used for detection of said polypeptides.

16. (Currently amended) The Mmethod of claim 4, wherein detection is in a sample comprising CSF, blood, serum, plasma, urine, seminal plasma, nipple fluid, and/or cell extracts of said patient.

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